

**What is claimed is:**

1. Process for lowering the content of organic matter and of nitrogenous products contained in a bromide-containing effluent that is in the form of an aqueous bromide-containing solution or of a bromide-containing solid, comprising subjecting said bromide-containing effluent to one or more physicochemical treatments chosen from:
  - a) acidification of an aqueous bromide-containing solution or of a solution obtained by dissolution if the bromide-containing effluent is solid, followed by vapour entrainment of the light organic compounds;
  - b) basification of the solution obtained in a) or of the initial aqueous bromide-containing solution obtained by dissolution if the bromide-containing effluent is solid, followed by vapour entrainment of the light organoamine compounds and/or of  $\text{NH}_3$ ;
  - c) vapour entrainment of light organic compounds from the aqueous solution obtained in a), or from the solution obtained in b), or from an initial bromide-containing solution obtained by dissolution if the effluent is solid, without modifying the pH;
  - d) washing a solid bromide-containing effluent to be treated or a solid derived from the evaporation of an aqueous bromide-containing solution resulting from one or more preceding treatment(s), with an organic solvent, filtration of the suspension obtained, and washing and drying of the cake obtained.
2. Process according to Claim 1, comprising subjecting said bromide-containing effluent to one or more treatment(s) a), b), c) or d), in any order

depending on the nature of the organic matter and nitrogenous products present to be removed and on the form of the bromide-containing effluent to be treated.

3. Process according to Claim 2 comprising subjecting said bromide-containing effluent to one or more treatment(s) a), b), c), or d) in the order a), b),  
5 c), d).

4. Process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the organic solvent used in treatment d) is chosen from solvents that dissolve a minimum amount of bromides and a maximum amount of organic matter and nitrogenous products.

- 10 5. Process according to Claim 4, characterized in that the organic solvent used in treatment d) is chosen from acetonitrile, sec-butanol, isopropanol and acetone.

6. Process according to Claim 5, characterized in that the organic solvent is isopropanol.

- 15 7. Process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the acidification of the bromide-containing solution - treatment a) - is performed with an amount of a mineral acid that is sufficient to obtain a pH of not more than 3.

8. Process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the basification of the bromide-containing solution - treatment b) - is performed with an amount of  
20 an alkaline agent that is sufficient to obtain a pH of at least 10.

9. Process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the vapour entrainment of the acidic, basic or neutral bromide-containing solution is performed by injecting water or water vapour into said bromide-containing solution maintained at a temperature of at least 100°C, at atmospheric pressure.

10. Process of Claim 1 wherein said treated aqueous bromide-  
containing solution with an alkaline bromide concentration of between 100 g/l and  
500 g/l has a TOC of not more than 2,000 mg/l and a total nitrogen content of not  
5 more than 50 mg/l.

11. Process of Claim 10 wherein said treated aqueous bromide-  
containing solution with an alkaline bromide concentration of about 300 g/l has a  
TOC of not more than 2,000 mg/l and a total nitrogen content of not more than  
50 mg/l.

10 12. Use of the aqueous bromide-containing solution according to  
Claim 10 for the upgrading of alkaline bromides to elemental bromine.